PROGRAM ITINERARY

DAY 1

WELCOME TO MEXICO CITY

Thu. Feb 11, 2027

- Arrive late this evening at Benito Juárez International Airport in Mexico City.
- Make your own way to the hotel and check in. Settle in and prepare for an inspiring exploration of Mexico's rich history, vibrant culture, and dynamic Jewish community.

Overnight: Mexico City

DAY 2

HISTORY, MEMORY & SHABBAT IN THE HEART OF MEXICO

Fri. Feb 12, 2027

- Following breakfast, meet with Dr. Daniel Fainstein, Dean and Professor of Jewish Studies and Education at the Hebrew University of Mexico. Through conversation and discussion, gain a meaningful introduction to the history, evolution, and contemporary realities of one of Latin America's most vibrant Jewish communities.
- Walk (approx. 30 min.) to the historic center (Zócalo).
- Continue to the Zócalo, the monumental heart of Mexico City and one of the largest public squares in the world. Explore the remarkable layers of history that define this iconic space, including:
  - The Templo Mayor, built on the sacred site where the Aztecs envisioned the founding of their capital.
  - The Metropolitan Cathedral, the largest and oldest cathedral in Latin America.

- The National Palace, home to the offices of the Mexican President and renowned for its historical significance.

- Enjoy lunch on your own in the historic center, with time to explore the cafés and restaurants surrounding the Zócalo.
- This afternoon, join historian Mónica Unikel for a fascinating walking tour through Mexico City's historic Jewish quarter. Trace the footsteps of the first Jewish immigrants as you visit the Justo Sierra Synagogue, former communal institutions, historic streets, and neighborhoods that tell the story of Jewish settlement and community building in Mexico.
- Walk (approx. 30 min.) back to the hotel and prepare for Shabbat.
- Drive (approx. 30 min.) to Beth El Conservative Synagogue.
- As Shabbat begins, gather with the local community for Kabbalat Shabbat services at Beth El Conservative Synagogue, followed by a warm and festive communal Shabbat dinner with congregants, offering a meaningful opportunity to experience contemporary Jewish life in Mexico firsthand.
- Drive (approx. 30 min.) back to the hotel.

Overnight: Mexico City Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 3

ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS & SHABBAT REFLECTIONS

Sat. Feb 13, 2027

- Drive (approx. 30 min.) to the National Museum of Anthropology.
- Begin Shabbat with a visit to the National Museum of Anthropology, Mexico's premier cultural institution. Discover extraordinary treasures from the civilizations that shaped the country, including the legendary Aztec Calendar Stone, monumental sculptures, and remarkable archaeological artifacts that illuminate thousands of years of history.
- Drive (approx. 1 hr. 30 min.) to Teotihuacan.
- Group lunch, en route.

- Continue to Teotihuacan, the awe-inspiring UNESCO World Heritage Site that was once among the largest cities in the ancient world. Walk along the Avenue of the Dead as you explore the monumental pyramids and ceremonial complexes while gaining insight into the sophisticated urban planning, spiritual beliefs, and enduring mysteries of this remarkable civilization.
- Drive (approx. 1 hr. 30 min.) back to Mexico City.
- As Shabbat draws to a close, gather for a meaningful Havdalah ceremony, marking the transition into the new week.
- Enjoy the remainder of the evening at leisure.

Overnight: Mexico City Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 4

FLAVORS, ART & THE LIVING CULTURE OF MEXICO

Sun. Feb 14, 2027

- Drive (approx. 30 min.) to a vibrant local market.
- Experience Mexico City through its extraordinary culinary traditions.
- Accompanied by a local chef, explore a vibrant neighborhood market renowned for its colorful atmosphere and remarkable diversity of regional ingredients. Taste freshly made tortillas, sip rich Oaxacan cacao, and sample seasonal fruits while learning how local ingredients have shaped Mexican cuisine for generations.
- Continue to the chef's kitchen for a hands-on cooking workshop, where you'll prepare a four-course meal using traditional techniques and locally sourced ingredients.
- Enjoy the delicious lunch you have created together.
- Drive (approx. 45 min.) to Xochimilco.
- Continue to the Dolores Olmedo Patiño Museum, where lush gardens and elegant architecture frame one of the world's most significant collections dedicated to Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera, offering rare insight into their art,

relationships, creative evolution, and enduring influence on Mexico's cultural narrative.

- Conclude the day's exploration on the waterways of Xochimilco, a UNESCO-listed cultural landscape and one of Mexico City's most iconic experiences. Step aboard a colorful trajinera and cruise through the ancient canals, sampling local flavors and enjoying live music while taking in the festive atmosphere that has made this tradition an enduring symbol of Mexico City.
- Drive (approx. 45 min.) back to the hotel.
- Enjoy the evening at leisure.

Overnight: Mexico City Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 5

JEWISH LIFE TODAY: MEMORY, EDUCATION & COMMUNITY

Mon. Feb 15, 2027

- Drive (approx. 30 min.) to CDIJUM (The Mexican Jewish Documentation and Research Center).
- Begin the day at CDIJUM, where archival collections, personal testimonies, and historical artifacts illuminate the remarkable story of Jewish immigration, integration, and communal life in Mexico.
- Drive (approx. 30 min.) to ORT Olamí School.
- Continue to ORT Olamí School, one of Mexico City's leading Jewish educational institutions. Meet with educators and students to explore how Jewish values, academic excellence, and innovation are cultivated while preparing the next generation of community leaders.
- Drive (approx. 30 min.) to Centro Deportivo Israelita (CDI).
- In the late afternoon, visit Centro Deportivo Israelita (CDI) during its busiest hours. Experience the remarkable energy of thousands of community members gathering for sports, cultural activities, education, and recreation, providing a unique window into the vitality and diversity of contemporary Jewish life in Mexico.

- Conclude your journey with a festive farewell dinner, celebrating the friendships, conversations, and unforgettable experiences shared throughout the week.
- Drive (approx. 30 min.) back to the hotel.

Overnight: Mexico City Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 6

HASTA LUEGO, MEXICO

Tue. Feb 16, 2027

- Check out of the hotel.
- Make your own way to Benito Juárez International Airport (approximately 30 min., depending on traffic) for your return flight home, concluding a memorable journey through Mexico's extraordinary history, vibrant culture, and flourishing Jewish community.

Meals: Breakfast

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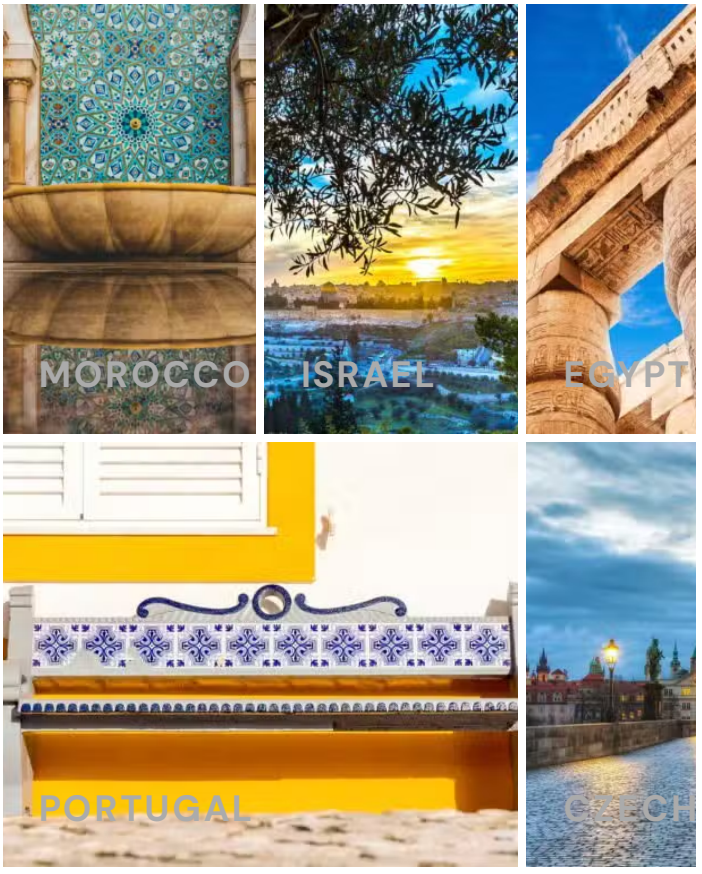

START EXPLORING